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News Release

national machine tool builders

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Contact: Charles Pollock
Michael Codel

MACHINE TOOL ORDERS RISE IN JANUARY

The National Machine Tool Builders' Association reported today that January net new orders for machine tools stood at $147.75 million, an 8.2% rise from the December 1986 level of $136.55 million. This total represents a monthly 14.5% rise in orders for metal cutting machine tools, up to $99.90 million from the $87.25 million posted in the previous month. Metal forming equipment orders for the month fell from $49.30 million to $47.85 million, a 2.9% drop.

Measured against January a year ago, the first month of 1987 saw a 26.0% fall in metal cutting orders and a 14.2% fall in metal forming orders. At $147.75 million, combined cutting and forming orders for January 1987 fell 22.5% when compared to the $190.75 million total for January 1986.

"The new order picture continues to concern us," stated James A. Gray, NMTBA president. "Capital spending cutbacks--like those recently announced by General Motors--can only have a negative effect on machine tool orders. Many industry executives and analysts, in light of these capital investment cutbacks, predict that 1987 may be one of the most difficult years yet faced by the U.S. machine tool industry."

(MORE)

NMTBA sponsors the INTERNATIONAL MACHINE TOOL SHOW IMTS The world of manufacturing technology

"Yet, America needs to increase its industrial investment to compete with the other industrialized nations. We can never be the world's quality and cost leader if we rely on aging manufacturing plants," Gray said. "America must apply the latest technology to its manufactured products and manufacturing plant if we are to prosper. Everyone, especially our elected leaders, must recognize this fact."

Total machine tool shipments for the month of January stood at $148.25 million, down 45.3% from the $271.25 million posted in December 1986. Metal cutting machine tool shipments dropped 48.0% and metal forming machine tool shipments dropped 35.1%. This month-to-month decline is to be expected, as December's figures always reflect a year-end surge in shipments.

However, the combined shipment total of $148.25 million for January 1987 represents a 1.6% rise over the $145.85 million for January 1986. Compared to January a year ago, shipments of metal cutting equipment rose 22.1% while shipments of metal forming equipment fell 32.8%.

Total net new machine tool orders for all of 1986 stood at $2,125.30 million, down from a 1985 total of $2,528.10 million. Machine tool shipments for 1986 totaled $2,578.50 million, slightly up from the $2,545.20 million for 1985.

Machine tool backlogs for January 1987 fell to $1,203.85 million, down from the $1,204.35 million for December 1986.

# # #

COMPARISON CHART

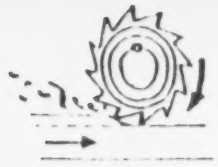
NET NEW ORDERS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JAN 1987	88.00	11.90	99.90	33.00	14.85	47.85	121.00	26.75	147.75
DEC 1986	74.05	13.20	87.25	37.05	12.25	49.30	111.10	25.45	136.55
% CHANGE JAN 1987:DEC 1986	+18.8	-9.8	+14.5	-10.9	+21.2	-2.9	+8.9	+5.1	+8.2
JAN 1986	124.75	10.25	135.00	50.20	5.55	55.75	174.95	15.80	190.75
% CHANGE JAN 1987:JAN 1986	-29.5	+16.1	-26.0	-34.3	+167.6	-14.2	-30.8	+69.3	-22.5
YEAR TO DATE 1987									
YEAR TO DATE 1986		N/A			N/A			N/A	
% CHANGE 1987 : 1986									

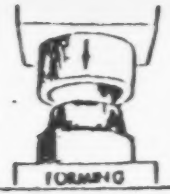
SHIPMENTS -- MACHINE TOOLS
(Millions of Dollars)

	METAL CUTTING			METAL FORMING			TOTAL Cutting and Forming		
	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total	Domestic	Foreign	Total
JAN 1987	104.60	7.15	111.75	31.30	5.20	36.50	135.90	12.35	148.25
DEC 1986	189.10	25.90	215.00	43.20	13.05	56.25	232.30	38.95	271.25
% CHANGE JAN 1987:DEC 1986	-44.7	-72.4	-48.0	-27.5	-60.2	-35.1	-41.5	-68.3	-45.3
JAN 1986	74.05	17.45	91.50	50.80	3.55	54.35	124.85	21.00	145.85
% CHANGE JAN 1987:JAN 1986	+41.3	-59.0	+22.1	-38.4	+46.5	-32.8	+8.9	-41.2	+1.6
YEAR TO DATE 1987									
YEAR TO DATE 1986		N/A			N/A			N/A	
% CHANGE 1987 : 1986									

Source; National Machine Tool Builders' Association



TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

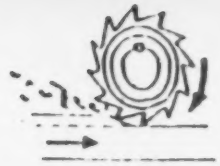


DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,883.35	$ 241.95	$ 2,125.30	1,204.35	$ 2,306.05	$ 272.45	$ 2,578.50
1987 JAN (P)	$ 121.00	$ 26.75	$ 147.75	1,203.85	$ 135.90	$ 12.35	$ 148.25

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 2,065.20	$ 257.20	$ 2,322.40	$ 181.85	$ 15.25	$ 197.10
1987 JAN (P)	$ 127.00	$ 26.85	$ 153.85	$ 6.00	$ .10	$ 6.10

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.



INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,376.55	$ 167.70	$ 1,544.25	897.25	$ 1,684.70	$ 205.60	$ 1,890.30
1987							
JAN (P)	$ 88.00	$ 11.90	$ 99.90	885.40	$ 104.60	$ 7.15	$ 111.75

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 1,498.60	$ 176.35	$ 1,674.95	$ 122.05	$ 8.65	$ 130.70
1987						
JAN (P)	$ 92.60	$ 11.95	$ 104.55	$ 4.60	$ .05	$ 4.65

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 506.80	$ 74.25	$ 581.05	307.10	$ 621.35	$ 66.85	$ 688.20
1987							
JAN (P)	$ 33.00	$ 14.85	$ 47.85	318.45	$ 31.30	$ 5.20	$ 36.50

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1986	$ 566.60	$ 80.85	$ 647.45	$ 59.80	$ 6.60	$ 66.40
1987						
JAN (P)	$ 34.40	$ 14.90	$ 49.30	$ 1.40	$ .05	$ 1.45

P - Preliminary

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

TOTAL INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
MACHINE TOOLS - CUTTING AND FORMING
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 2,262.15	$ 265.55	$ 2,528.10	1,657.55	$ 2,291.45	$ 253.75	$ 2,545.20
1986							
JAN	$ 174.95	$ 15.80	$ 190.75	1,702.45	$ 124.85	$ 21.00	$ 145.85
FEB	$ 198.25	$ 12.15	$ 210.40	1,710.20	$ 185.65	$ 17.00	$ 202.65
MAR	$ 196.80	$ 17.80	$ 214.60	1,676.00	$ 219.30	$ 29.50	$ 248.80
APR	$ 169.25	$ 24.00	$ 193.25	1,659.70	$ 190.80	$ 18.75	$ 209.55
MAY	$ 177.00	$ 29.20	$ 206.20	1,636.35	$ 207.10	$ 22.45	$ 229.55
JUN	$ 190.55	$ 10.60	$ 201.15	1,525.60	$ 289.00	$ 22.90	$ 311.90
JUL	$ 135.30	$ 34.70	$ 170.00	1,505.55	$ 172.50	$ 17.55	$ 190.05
AUG	$ 139.00	$ 15.40	$ 154.40	1,508.60	$ 131.55	$ 19.80	$ 151.35
SEP	$ 113.60	$ 21.65	$ 135.25	1,435.90	$ 181.10	$ 26.85	$ 207.95
OCT	$ 159.40	$ 20.75	$ 180.15	1,373.25	$ 222.80	$ 20.00	$ 242.80
NOV	$ 118.15	$ 14.45	$ 132.60	1,339.05	$ 149.10	$ 17.70	$ 166.80
DEC	$ 111.10	$ 25.45	$ 136.55	1,204.35	$ 232.30	$ 38.95	$ 271.25
12 MONTHS	$ 1,883.35	$ 241.95	$ 2,125.30		$ 2,306.05	$ 272.45	$ 2,578.50

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 2,433.30	$ 282.65	$ 2,715.95	$ 171.15	$ 16.70	$ 187.85
1986						
JAN	$ 180.65	$ 17.20	$ 197.85	$ 5.70	$ 1.40	$ 7.10
FEB	$ 214.85	$ 14.65	$ 229.50	$ 16.60	$ 2.50	$ 19.10
MAR	$ 203.35	$ 18.40	$ 221.75	$ 6.55	$ .60	$ 7.15
APR	$ 181.10	$ 24.45	$ 205.55	$ 11.85	$ .45	$ 12.30
MAY	$ 183.50	$ 29.50	$ 213.00	$ 6.50	$ .30	$ 6.80
JUN	$ 215.90	$ 15.20	$ 231.10	$ 25.35	$ 4.60	$ 29.95
JUL	$ 164.25	$ 35.30	$ 199.55	$ 28.95	$ .60	$ 29.55
AUG	$ 149.05	$ 16.50	$ 165.55	$ 10.05	$ 1.10	$ 11.15
SEP	$ 143.40	$ 22.35	$ 165.75	$ 29.80	$ .70	$ 30.50
OCT	$ 167.65	$ 21.90	$ 189.55	$ 8.25	$ 1.15	$ 9.40
NOV	$ 127.30	$ 15.10	$ 142.40	$ 9.15	$ .65	$ 9.80
DEC	$ 134.20	$ 26.65	$ 160.85	$ 23.10	$ 1.20	$ 24.30
12 MONTHS	$ 2,065.20	$ 257.20	$ 2,322.40	$ 181.85	$ 15.25	$ 197.10

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL CUTTING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 1,652.15	$ 200.95	$ 1,853.10	1,243.30	$ 1,548.50	$ 193.75	$ 1,742.25
1986							
JAN	$ 124.75	$ 10.25	$ 135.00	1,286.80	$ 74.05	$ 17.45	$ 91.50
FEB	$ 160.65	$ 7.95	$ 168.60	1,331.50	$ 109.50	$ 14.40	$ 123.90
MAR	$ 146.05	$ 13.85	$ 159.90	1,319.85	$ 148.20	$ 23.35	$ 171.55
APR	$ 118.30	$ 17.85	$ 136.15	1,303.90	$ 140.05	$ 12.05	$ 152.10
MAY	$ 118.50	$ 23.20	$ 141.70	1,273.15	$ 153.10	$ 19.35	$ 172.45
JUN	$ 145.65	$ 11.15	$ 156.80	1,185.15	$ 226.70	$ 18.10	$ 244.80
JUL	$ 99.25	$ 29.55	$ 128.80	1,164.85	$ 135.90	$ 13.20	$ 149.10
AUG	$ 108.60	$ 6.50	$ 115.10	1,171.70	$ 92.50	$ 15.75	$ 108.25
SEP	$ 89.95	$ 10.20	$ 100.15	1,110.50	$ 140.80	$ 20.55	$ 161 35
OCT	$ 114.95	$ 15.90	$ 130.85	1,057.85	$ 170.40	$ 13.10	$ 183.50
NOV	$ 75.85	$ 8.10	$ 83.95	1,025.00	$ 104.40	$ 12.40	$ 116.80
DEC	$ 74.05	$ 13.20	$ 87.25	897.25	$ 189.10	$ 25.90	$ 215.00
12 MONTHS	$ 1,376.55	$ 167.70	$ 1,544.25		$ 1,684.70	$ 205.60	$ 1,890.30

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 1,769.20	$ 213.45	$ 1,982.65	$ 117.05	$ 12.50	$ 129.55
1986						
JAN	$ 129.30	$ 11.45	$ 140.75	$ 4.55	$ 1.20	$ 5.75
FEB	$ 165.70	$ 9.95	$ 175.65	$ 5.05	$ 2.00	$ 7.05
MAR	$ 150.55	$ 14.30	$ 164.85	$ 4.50	$ .45	$ 4.95
APR	$ 127.40	$ 18.25	$ 145.65	$ 9.10	$ .40	$ 9.50
MAY	$ 122.75	$ 23.45	$ 146.20	$ 4.25	$ .25	$ 4.50
JUN	$ 159.55	$ 11.95	$ 171.50	$ 13.90	$ .80	$ 14.70
JUL	$ 116.50	$ 30.10	$ 146.60	$ 17.25	$ .55	$ 17.80
AUG	$ 114.30	$ 7.55	$ 121.85	$ 5.70	$ 1.05	$ 6.75
SEP	$ 110.20	$ 10.85	$ 121.05	$ 20.25	$ .65	$ 20.90
OCT	$ 121.75	$ 16.60	$ 138.35	$ 6.80	$ .70	$ 7.50
NOV	$ 83.95	$ 8.20	$ 92.15	$ 8.10	$ .09	$ 8.20
DEC	$ 96.65	$ 13.70	$ 110.35	$ 22.60	$ .50	$ 23.10
12 MONTHS	$ 1,498.60	$ 176.35	$ 1,674.95	$ 122.05	$ 8.65	$ 130.70

NOTE: This table includes industry estimate figures based on reports submitted to the National Machine Tool Builders' Association. These industry estimates have not been adjusted for change in the value of the dollar.

INDUSTRY ESTIMATE
METAL FORMING TYPE MACHINE TOOLS
New Orders, Cancellations, Shipments and Backlog
(Millions of Dollars)

DATE	NET NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	Order Backlog	SHIPMENTS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 610.00	$ 65.00	$ 675.00	414.25	$ 742.95	$ 60.00	$ 802.95
1986							
JAN	$ 50.20	$ 5.55	$ 55.75	415.65	$ 50.80	$ 3.55	$ 54.35
FEB	$ 37.60	$ 4.20	$ 41.80	378.70	$ 76.15	$ 2.60	$ 78.75
MAR	$ 50.75	$ 3.95	$ 54.70	356.15	$ 71.10	$ 6.15	$ 77.25
APR	$ 50.95	$ 6.15	$ 57.10	355.80	$ 50.75	$ 6.70	$ 57.45
MAY	$ 58.50	$ 6.00	$ 64.50	363.20	$ 54.00	$ 3.10	$ 57.10
JUN	$ 44.90	$ -.55	$ 44.35	340.45	$ 62.30	$ 4.80	$ 67.10
JUL	$ 36.05	$ 5.15	$ 41.20	340.70	$ 36.60	$ 4.35	$ 40.95
AUG	$ 30.40	$ 8.90	$ 39.30	336.90	$ 39.05	$ 4.05	$ 43.10
SEP	$ 23.65	$ 11.45	$ 35.10	325.40	$ 40.30	$ 6.30	$ 46.60
OCT	$ 44.45	$ 4.85	$ 49.30	315.40	$ 52.40	$ 6.90	$ 59.30
NOV	$ 42.30	$ 6.35	$ 48.65	314.05	$ 44.70	$ 5.30	$ 50.00
DEC	$ 37.05	$ 12.25	$ 49.30	307.10	$ 43.20	$ 13.05	$ 56.25
12 MONTHS	$ 506.80	$ 74.25	$ 581.05		$ 621.35	$ 66.85	$ 688.20

DATE	GROSS NEW ORDERS Domestic	Foreign	Total	CANCELLATIONS Domestic	Foreign	Total
1985	$ 664.10	$ 69.20	$ 733.30	$ 54.10	$ 4.20	$ 58.30
1986						
JAN	$ 51.35	$ 5.75	$ 57.10	$ 1.15	$ .20	$ 1.35
FEB	$ 49.15	$ 4.70	$ 53.85	$ 11.55	$ .50	$ 12.05
MAR	$ 52.80	$ 4.10	$ 56.90	$ 2.05	$ .15	$ 2.20
APR	$ 53.70	$ 6.20	$ 59.90	$ 2.75	$ .05	$ 2.80
MAY	$ 60.75	$ 6.05	$ 66.80	$ 2.25	$ .05	$ 2.30
JUN	$ 56.35	$ 3.25	$ 59.60	$ 11.45	$ 3.80	$ 15.25
JUL	$ 47.75	$ 5.20	$ 52.95	$ 11.70	$ .05	$ 11.75
AUG	$ 34.75	$ 8.95	$ 43.70	$ 4.35	$ .05	$ 4.40
SEP	$ 33.20	$ 11.50	$ 44.70	$ 9.55	$ .05	$ 9.60
OCT	$ 45.90	$ 5.30	$ 51.20	$ 1.45	$ .45	$ 1.90
NOV	$ 43.35	$ 6.90	$ 50.25	$ 1.05	$ .55	$ 1.60
DEC	$ 37.55	$ 12.95	$ 50.50	$ .50	$ .70	$ 1.20
12 MONTHS	$ 566.60	$ 80.85	$ 647.45	$ 59.80	$ 6.60	$ 66.40

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